

News Release



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U.S. Department of Labor awards \$6.5 million to develop innovative programs to prepare workers for careers in fast-growing industries *Grants will advance Registered Apprenticeships into 21st century*

WASHINGTON.— The U.S. Department of Labor today awarded \$6,499,992 to assist national industry and employer associations and labor-management organizations in advancing Registered Apprenticeship through the development of innovative programs that utilize an updated 21st century Registered Apprenticeship framework.

“This funding will promote the development of flexible training options that allow organizations to continue to provide workers with state-of-the-art apprenticeship opportunities” said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. “Traditional as well as new and emerging industries, such as those related to green technologies, will benefit from the innovative program designs that this \$6.5 million will help to support and expand.”

Registered Apprenticeship is an ‘earn while you learn’ model that provides a combination of on-the-job learning and related classroom instruction in which workers learn the practical and theoretical aspects of a highly skilled occupation. Apprenticeship programs are sponsored by joint employer and labor groups, individual employers, and/or employer associations. Currently the Registered Apprenticeship system includes a network of approximately 30,000 program sponsors nationwide, offering nearly 1,000 different career opportunities.

The grants will fund the development and adaptation of innovative national apprenticeship guideline standards that incorporate competency-based progression or hybrid-style progression (a combination of traditional time-based programs and competency-based models). Funds will also be available to support the development and use of interim credentials to track an apprentice’s skill progression; as well as the use of technology-based learning to provide related technical instruction. Funds will also be used to support partnerships with the workforce and education communities. Finally, funds are also available to train staff, apprenticeship instructors and members on these revised and innovative program designs.

For more information on Registered Apprenticeship and the array of Department of Labor training and employment programs visit www.doleta.gov.

Editors Note: A List of grant recipients is attached.

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Advancing Registered Apprenticeship into the 21st Century Grant Recipients

Grantee	Headquarters	Grant Amount
Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons International Association of the United States and Canada	Beltsville, Md.	\$622,562
National Ironworkers and Employers Apprenticeship Training and Journeyman Upgrading Fund (Ironworkers)	Washington, D.C.	\$536,499
Home Builders Institute	Washington, D.C.	\$623,297
National Institute for Metalworking Skills, Inc.	Fairfax, Va.	\$624,300
Trimmer Education Foundation	Arlington, Va.	\$624,300
American Culinary Federation Education Foundation Inc.	St. Augustine, Fla.	\$481,200
Finishing Trades Institute	Hanover, Md.	\$622,757
United Association of Journeyman and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada	Annapolis, Md.	\$624,300
The National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee	Upper Marlboro, Md.	\$614,943
International Masonry Institute	Bowie, Md.	\$545,149
New Horizons Computer Learning Centers Inc.	Carmel, Ind.	\$580,685

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